



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210

PO Box 145801

Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

801-538-5340

801-359-3940 (Fax)

801-538-7223 (TDD)

Michael O. Leavitt
Governor

Lowell P. Braxton
Division Director

August 7, 1998

Bill Hanson
Shamrock Mining Associates, LLC
2670 South 200 East #270
Salt Lake City, Utah 84109

Re: Resolution of Remaining Permit Issues, Shamrock Mining Associates, LLC., Blind Stream 5-11 Project, S/013/004, Duchesne County, Utah

Dear Mr. Hanson:

Thank you and the other members of Shamrock Mining Associates/Honeycomb Mining Associates for meeting onsite with me on July 15, 1998. The Division letter of January 16, 1998 described several remaining issues which needed to be resolved. The purpose of this letter is to document the resolution of those remaining issues as a result of the July onsite inspection.

One issue in the Division's January letter was the Utah Mining Claim numbers. Information recently submitted to the Division described the permit transfer from Honey Comb Mining Associates, LLC to Shamrock Mining Associates LLC. This information also included a Quit-Claim Deed referencing Blind Stream Claims #5 through #11. Blind Stream Claims #5 - 11 have replaced or superseded Blind Steam Claims #1-4. Please provide the Division with the Utah Mining Claim numbers for the new claims when they are available.

Other issues in the Division's January letter were the blank variance section in the notice form, and the inference that topsoil was lacking in the project area. The current mine excavation provided a visual cross section of the soil profile. The current excavation is in an area overlain by a minimal layer of rocky topsoil with some areas of rock outcropping to the surface; however, some topsoil material is salvageable. In addition, the rejects material appears to contain an adequate amount of soil fines to aid in supporting vegetation, provided there are no geochemical problems. Based on this inspection, a variance from the topsoil salvage and replacement requirements of the Operation and Reclamation Practices is not warranted at this time. Shamrock Mining should salvage and stockpile all available topsoil for use in final reclamation even if these materials are minimal in depth. At final reclamation the salvaged topsoil should be placed over the rejects material with soil fines to create a bed of growth medium. If future mining excavations move into areas which are composed entirely of rock outcropping to the surface, please advise the Division so we can reconsider the topsoil variance.

Another issue in the January letter was the reclamation responsibility of the access roads to the site. Discussions with the USFS during the July inspection revealed that the current access road is

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considered as an existing road by the USFS, with the exception of the road in the actual mine excavation. The access road considered as "existing" by the USFS will not be included as part of the mine disturbance and Shamrock Mining will not be responsible for reclaiming this road.

With the resolution of these issues, no further information is required from Shamrock Mining at this time and the small mine notice is considered complete by the Division. If you have any questions regarding this letter please contact me at (801) 538-5267. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anthony A. Gallegos". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Anthony A. Gallegos
Senior Reclamation Specialist

jb
cc: Claurence Cowan, USFS Duchesne District
s13-04cp.let